

1-7-1980

## Criminal Justice : 5/13/1980 Leland letter to Texas Governor Clements on Thomas Franklin Porter case to restore good time

The Mickey Leland Papers & Collection Addendum. (Texas Southern University, 2015)

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### Recommended Citation

The Mickey Leland Papers & Collection Addendum. (Texas Southern University, 2015), "Criminal Justice : 5/13/1980 Leland letter to Texas Governor Clements on Thomas Franklin Porter case to restore good time" (2015). The Mickey Leland Papers & Collection Addendum: Education, African Americans Repairs Education, African Amer. Racial Inequities (1980). *Series 5: State Government, 1973 - 1989*. Series 5, Box 7, Folder 4454. Paper 52.  
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May 13, 1980

Honorable William Clements  
Office of the Governor  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor Clements:

I would like to bring to your attention and request your careful consideration of the case of Mr. Thomas Franklin Porter.

Mr. Porter is currently incarcerated at the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary after being transferred there following his testimony in the trial of Ruiz vs. Texas Department of Corrections. Although Mr. Porter is serving in a federal prison, he is still under the jurisdiction of the State of Texas.

It is my understanding that when Mr. Porter testified, his good time and trustee status were stripped, thus making his first possible parole date 1987. If Mr. Porter had not been penalized for his participation in the trial, he would have been eligible for parole in 1981.

During Mr. Porter's incarceration in Texas, he experienced undue suffering and harassment. Both Mr. and Mrs. Porter have indicated to me their willingness to relocate out of the State of Texas upon Mr. Porter's release, should this become a factor in restoring his good time.

I would greatly appreciate your reviewing Mr. Porter's case and favorably ~~deciding~~ to restore Mr. Porter's earned good time and trustee status.

Thank you in advance for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

MICKEY LELAND  
Member of Congress

ML/dt